



COMMITTEE ON
ENERGY AND COMMERCE

COMMITTEE ON
SCIENCE, SPACE, AND TECHNOLOGY

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0509

April 29, 2021

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Chairwoman
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
H-307 The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kay Granger
Ranking Member
Committee of Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
1036 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chair DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger:

I am requesting funding in the amount of \$1,000,000 for Safer Streets - Safer Communities: Group Gun Violence Reduction, Ceasefire, and Firearms Reduction Program in the fiscal year 2022 Commerce, Justice and Science Appropriations Bill.

The project sponsor for this project is the City of Stockton and the project is located at the Stockton Police Department, 22 E. Weber Avenue #350, Stockton, CA 95202.

The Stockton Police Department (Stockton PD) and community partners have a shared interest in public safety as well as community trust-building initiatives for the population most at-risk of violence in the community. The Safer Streets - Safer Communities: Group Gun Violence Reduction, Ceasefire, and Firearms Reduction Program focuses on continued efforts to reduce fatal and nonfatal injury shootings and measurably strengthen the relationship between Stockton PD and local residents most affected by violence.

The City of Stockton is a diverse community where over 330,000 residents live among disproportionate levels of violence. After dramatic decreases in public safety resources due to the City's bankruptcy in 2012, Stockton PD has taken steps to support safer streets and safer communities by improving police-community relations. In particular, Stockton PD implemented Operation Ceasefire in partnership with the City's Office of Violence Prevention (OVP) to utilize data-driven, partnership-based violence prevention strategies, including best practices.

Additionally, Stockton PD is a participating agency of the Firearms Reduction Consortium, a multi-agency effort between the Stockton PD and San Joaquin County's District Attorney, Sheriff, and Probation Departments. The Consortium's proactive efforts are intended to remove illegal firearms from the City and vertically prosecute alleged defendants who are arrested during these proactive missions. Additionally, confiscated firearms are analyzed through Stockton PD's Integrated Ballistic Identification System (IBIS) to identify possible suspects involved in firearm-related crimes.

During the coronavirus pandemic, gun violence in Stockton has soared, with a 95% increase in non-fatal shootings during the first quarter of 2021 as compared to 2020. Additionally, the average age of high-risk

clients in Operation Ceasefire has dropped from 30 to 22 years old. With additional resources, Stockton PD and OVP can make greater progress to address and reduce the increase in gun violence while strengthening their community relationships.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer dollars as it will provide funding for firearms reduction programs in addition to strategies and programs that will reduce gun violence. With additional resources, Stockton PD and Stockton's Office of Violence Prevention can help reduce gun violence and increase community safety by utilizing data-driven, partnership-based violence prevention and reduction programs and strategies based on best practices.

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jerry McNerney", with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Jerry McNerney
Member of Congress